

Content
State/Federal differences; Federal Conformity
More "practical" practitioner points relative to CA differences from Fed, and other special CA credits.
federal and ca differences in 540 area of filing
Discuss differences in Federal/California tax law
Items different from Federal.
I would like to know the federal exchange of information programs that are going on
Conformity or lack of conformity with Federal laws. For example the HSA--there have been several bills discussed, but none of passed.
whether california is going to adopt any new federal legislation
FTB/IRS conformity
It is important to let the reader know if there are differences between federal and CA. I believe the FTB should push the legislature for more conformity between federal and CA. Thereby, minimizing the amount of work that we all have to do and concentrate on what is important. Reporting the right amount of taxable income and having the FTB do more audits in conjunction with the IRS.
It would be good for Tax News to include articles on any technical differences between federal and California law, especially with respect to the calculation of tax income. This would be particularly helpful on those issues that affect personal returns and small business returns. Many thanks.
Federal conformity, new legislation
differences from federal
Highlight differences between state and federal
E-SERVICES CONFORMITY WITH FEDERAL
new legislation regarding tax conformity with Federal Laws
Attention to differences between state and federal. The outside resources for calif issues are much more limited than are available for federal items.
I'd like to see more tie-in with current federal legislation - that is, when the federal regs change how does that impact California.
Differences between Federal and State should be implemented.

Practitioner-Related Content
More clues on how practioner can solve problems
Provide articles from Practitioners relative to FTB matters
Educate Taxp reparers on how and where to obtain publications which explains the california tax laws.Especially the new ones appearing in the Tax News
Include more information pertinent to small sole practitioners.
IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU OPEN A QUESTION ANSWER SPACE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE QUESTIONS.
What if questions, for different situations.
Provide articles on thorny tax issues and note areas where preparers frequently make errors.
More orrientaion toward the practioners and what they need to know to work with the FTB.
Publish common errors by practioners and how to correct them. Publish SBE decisions that may affect a lot of taxpayers.
More news on what is going wrong and being fixed so when we are affected we can tell the clients we are aware of it.
MORE ARTICLES RELAVENT TO TAX PREPARATION BY MEMBERS OF THE TAX PRACTITIONER COMMUNITY.
Common Tax Program and Preparer usage problems or areas in which to concentrate concerns for particutlar software misuse
Current issues or trends that the service is seeing, how to handle unusual transactions on the return, disclosures required
Tips for practioners. Opportunity for professionals to make suggestions.
accountants being punished
Anything that is "new" or maybe reminders of "problem" compliance issues is always welcome especially during tax season--which is getting to be year round.
how to correct errors within the system. both taxpayer and agency errors
I only compete a few CA returns, but it is usually very helpful to me here in Colorado. I don't have any other sources for current information except the website, so I do appreciate getting Tax News delivered to my inbox. Thanks!
As an out of state CPA (Oregon) with clients in California,I would enjoy more info regarding any disconnects from federal tax code. When federal tax law changes, it seems like the state revenue codes change incrementally to tie to the code. I want more info regarding code differences pointed out to me as it happens.
Highlight information of use to out-of-state practitioners that we might not otherwise see
Keep in mind that Not all Tax Practitioners live in California that do California returns. But we do NEED to keep informed on CA tax laws! So this Tax News is helpful in that manner!
Would like to see update re out of state practioners filing California returns for their clients.

MORE INFO ON PART YEAR RESIDENTS RETURNS for those of us who Do NOT practice in California, but have Californians MOVE into Our States! We need to have a section DEVOTED to Non and Part year Residents... That would be GREATLY HELPFUL! Also Telling us Tax practitioners HOW to Resolve Tax issues of PAST years in a more effective manner. Who to contact, etc. To speed the process, rather than be stuck on hold for 2 hours waiting to find out you got the wrong department!
part-year and nonresident filings
Group Nonresident filing
No suggestions at this time. As an Oregon CPA it helps to keep me informed of changes that are occurring.
Each year there are many new software vendors presenting their tax filing programs. I would like to know governmental concerns for the various brands.
More areas of coverage Contact info (Phone, Fax & Email) for key FTB personnel in the various divisions for Practitioner Use.
How to correct processing errors in the system, either from IRS provided data or taxpayer data or employer data or institutional data.
BY MAIL WHEN A CHANGE OCUR TO ALL REGISTERED PREPARER
Education
communication with tax professionals telephone list
Keep asking the professionals
Tax Law and Legislation
Expand discussion of tax law changes e.g. Forms affected
I really like receiving Tax News - especially information on legislation and the easy-to-understand explanations of new/changed legislation.
Address tax law issues that affect tax returns. Discuss interpretation of tax law and how to report it on the tax returns.
more articles on proposed tax law changes
Provide specific info on California tax law changes and how it pertains to the taxpayer from the tax professional's perspective.
Short articles are the best. Topics such as newly passed legislation or proposed tax laws are very helpful.
a) The FTB takes positions regarding tax law matters in public fora (courts, SBE, etc.), and those positions should be available on the FTB's website, and the pendency of those cases could be listed in the FTB news with internet URLs providing access to those briefs. (b) FTB legal frequently generates a list of ISSUES, things that are in flux or are being reviewed or considered for review. IF THE FTB IS REALLY DEDICATED TO TRANSPARENCY AND INCREASED TAX SYSTEM EFFICIENCY, those lists should be made generally available and not merely the informational assets of persons closely connected with the FTB staff who learn of those staff initiatives.

Filing and Legal/Legislation is very important. This is a "real time" view for EAs & t/p and keeps up dated.
ARTICLES ON PENDING TAX RELATED LEGISLATION
Recent tax cases of significance
New regulations and examples as how to apply.
California tax law decisions and interpretations.
summary of new laws
Timely legislation information would be helpful.
status of pending legislation
The FTB takes positions regarding tax law matters in public fora (courts, SBE, etc.), and those positions should be available on the FTB's website, and the pendency of those cases could be listed in the FTB news with internet URLs providing access to those briefs.
New tax Legislation and implications for tax payers and tax preparers.
Re your question #3 above - if would be helpful if you tell us more about changes that are being dicussed or considered. This would be extra helpful after a new federal tax law has been passed and we need to know FTB's position on the new federal changes.
Short concise updates in tax law or tips for planning and filing. No time to read long articles
Tax Programs
Speak to the corporate community, and big 4 community more regularly.
Large Corporate taxpayer issues
More on idividual tax returns and less on corporate and issues that concern a very few specific individuals/areas!
CORPORATION REPORTING FOR FOREIGN CORPORATIONS NOT INCORPORATED IN CA.
Corporations
keep us informed as to the enforcement collections of both federal and state... this seems sensitive area to both taxpayers and tax professionals.
Payroll, Offer in compremise
offers in compromise, installment agreements
Offers in Compromise
Tax News should include collection procedure articles involving OIC and other collection mattersss. Overall it is providing sufficient information. Thanks

Include brief descriptions of the various Bureaus, what they do, who to contact in each, etc.
IT WOULD BE A BENEFIT TO BOTH THE FTB AND TAX PROS, IF, A CRITIQUE WAS SET UP RELATING TO AUDIT PERSONNAL. OF COURSE, NO NAMES SHOULD BE USED, INSTEAD THE FTB PERSONNAL NUMBER AND THE TAX PRO NUMBER. THIS WOULD ESTABLISH A LEARNING CURVE FOR BOTH PARTIES. AS THE FTB IMPROVES ITS AUDITORS KNOWLEDGE OF REV & TAX CODE, APPEALS WOULD DECREASE; SAVING THE FTB OPERATING DOLLARS.
Include an indepth article on some common compliance issue each publication
The criminal corner is my FAVORITE part!!
I enjoy the criminal activity page. It is interesting to hear about people being brought to justice
Estate and trust topics please.
Greater emphasis on filing help, audit procedures (how/why a return is selected, best way for practitioner to present evidence to FTB, etc.), how to best represent clients when dealing with collections
I'm sure it is very helpful, however, my practice is very small so most of the information is not of use to me, but I do enjoy the articles about criminal activity and new tax laws.
it would help if it was directed at specific areas during the year such as Jan should focus on filing issues June should focus on collection issues etc
more focus on individual tax concerns.
Employment Tax Law
Tax info pertinent to business planning.
As a Payroll Professional, I am interested in employee tax issues.
info on your annual factor increase
Registered Domestic Partners
domestic partners
Real Estate Withholding
How to work through complex state tax issues like NOLs, the AMT, etc.
Filing and Forms
information about taxpayers who have only ITIN's and do not posses a valid SS#, after all they are paying their taxes just like all citizens in the US of A. Thank you!.
How to handle clients that do not have a SS# and use ITIN.
Tax updates that have an affect on the majority of California taxpayers.

I'd like to see more of "what's going on..." that is, what are the current areas of interest or action by the FTB for individual taxpayers.
More articles on tax credits
As a practioner I am always interested in knowing what changes lay ahead in the upcoming tax year for my individual clients, as early as possible. So I'd like to see more "head's up" notification of those items affecting the form 540.
GIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TAX FILING CHANGES FOR NEX YEAR.
Highlight when new forms/older forms with revisions are available for download. Thanks.
Trend and problems that pop up during the filing season
to provide 2006 tax forms before January 2007
forms instructions for tax preparation
540 problems
More information about issue dates of tax forms and where tax rates and tables can be located.
Keep emphasizing e-file news, options, and reports,
e file
Current information on efilng-procedures as well as technicalinformation pertinent to users.
Highlights of new Publications
General Content Comments
More pertinent tax information.
Highlight separate sections for different types of taxpayers, i.e. individuals, businesses, employers, etc.
FTB porblems like sending out tax due letters in April when payments were timely made but are sitting in FTB files. Out of 105 clients I had 4 last year and they are time consuming for me upsetting for clients
Tax News is being used a vehicle for "puff pieces" for the FTB. For example: "The FTB has a New Initiative to . . ." NOBODY CARES. . . Do try and write articles on things people are getting wrong. Then we won't do it. Fed v. CA differences a great subject always. This is a CALIFORNIA TAX NEWS newsletter. Pick a uniquely CA subject and EXPLAIN it. Enterprize Zones - DON'T use up the paper LISTING each Zone - LINK TO THEM - GET IT in. Apportionment - GREAT SUBJECT. Untouched by TAX News. Why? Lynn Freer does not know everything you know - you have people who really know.
Less scare tactics and more information that would actually help practitioners do their job. Answers to questions on various tax issues that have been called in to the FTB. Common problems on various forms or points to remember.

state tax seminars announcements!
Question & Answer section
Allow us to ask question before you publish Tax News.
Format
PDF Version
Have a PDF version available on the website so that ALL articles can be printed together as a hard copy
Seem to have printing issues. I always use to be able to print a PDF file, and lately I don't remember getting a PDF
thank you for adding a pdf printable format - we often print & read later versus reading online.
go back to a .pdf so it's easier to save for future reference, instead of having to print each article individually
make the PDF version like the old mailed one- don't leave empty space on the pages- wastes paper when we print it out!
Provide a .pdf format that can be printed and read offline like the old hardcopy format.
Ensure PDF available for all issues. Thanks for your good work!
I find the older format easier to read or skim over then just to click on a headline or easier paragraph.
I would like it all in one flyer instead of clicking on links
Make sure you include the link for getting the pdf version of Tax News
I would like to be able to print the entire Tax News without going back and forth to articles.
Have an option to be able to click once to see the full articles instead of having to click each time and going back to click the next article.
Make it a "pdf" downloadable publication that does not require one to follow links to your web-site. The way you do it now is annoying and burdensome.
It would be great to print out the entire news letter without going to the individual sites to retrieve the articles.
Print Tax News
Go back to paper
I really preferred the hard copy. I maintained a binder to keep the in a was a useful resource in our office. The on-line version requires hot linking to the actual article which greatly slows down the process when trying to research an issue quickly.

Personally, I liked the hard copy that I received in the mail. I don't read it on-line nearly as carefully or often. This is personal, but I hate on-line newsletters.
I do not like the new on-line format. I am busy and usually just delete it. If you mailed hard copies, I will always read it, usually sooner than later.
Put the publication into one document so that it can be printed out and read in the office. All the links are a hassle to combine into one document.
I'm behind in my reading of Tax News because it is now on line. I prefer to get a hard copy but know it is no longer available. Otherwise, it's a very informative newsletter.
Go back to printed version.
Charge a fee and return to mailing
I hate the new online method of delivery. I found paper much more convenient. I rarely read tax news anymore.
go back to paper delivery for those who want it
The Internet is a problem for those of us who have a problem reading on-screen. Printing all those pages out is a pain. A paid in-the-mail old fashioned subscription would be good.
Mail out the hard copy. Reading a computer screen with all the scrolling up, down, sideways, makes reading very tiring and time consuming.
prefer the paper issues
Still prefer mailing of news letter. Easier than reading off the screen.
better when printed on paper
Shorter, Longer Articles
Send out a free Starbucks coffee coupon with it. That's a joke! Suggestion: keep articles brief and to the point. An article of interest, even good recipe or other interesting info, is always fun
In the words of Henry David Thoreau: "Simplify!" Tax News has nothing to say that CAN'T be said in simple text in an e-mail. Receiving a link via e-mail, then having to go to that link and finding sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't, is inefficient at the least, purely aggravating at best. Please make it quick, simple and concise. Send it as a straight text (unformatted) message, or at least make that a subscription option. Thank you.
Keep it brief & to the point.
Short concise article that gives the facts without sending us to various legislation. That can be a link however.
make it larger in content, especially the email version which does not waste paper or cost any extra to send out
SOME ARTICLES NEED MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION.
Why isn't the Tax News more in dept like the Printed Version was?

Search/Indexing
Easy retrieval index for key words in article titles.
Index each issue.
search by topic for those of us who can't remember the number of new legislation :-)
General Layout
Segregate Tax News into distinct sections based on the type of tax. In other words, have a section for individual income taxes, another section for corporate income taxes, etc
I can't really answer the questions above. To be honest when I signed up I had hoped to get the information in the email message. Instead the email message tells me the publication has been released and provides a link to it. I haven't ever clicked on the link to look it. I would prefer to have the information in the message, no elaborate web page needed. A summary at the top and then details in the body of the message. I do look at every IRS QuickAlert and Newswire email because of the way they are formatted. I hope this helps. Thanks.
Have more links to additional information. Try to make the electronic version of Tax News more interactive with videos, sound, graphics, etc.
An easier way to save content that is useful to you that could be saved and be available on your laptop for reference when you cannot be on the internet.
First, thank you for recently giving us a way to print out the Tax News. Please condense the PDF file so that you don't start a new page with each article. I don't have time to read it online, so I print it out to read away from work & the print-out wastes a lot of paper. Thank you.
It seems like you have taken a step backwards in the appearance of the publication. The PDF should look like the nice document you used to mail us, which was also presented in the same format in PDF. Now it looks like a teenage kid's book report, it ends up being 15 or 20 pages instead of 12 or 16.
Update graphic interface.
WEBCAST IS SUPPORTIVE ON OUR INDUSTRY
WEBCAST
give each article full page coverage without having to search.
send by direct email instead of linking to internet
compile the complete info/article under the dateline rather than having to click on each article to get additional info.

E-mail a text (or SIMPLE HTML) version of the newsletter. It makes it much easier to read than having to get it off the internet. Include a link to the internet version, as you do already.
Check out Spidell Publishing's monthly newsletter. This should be used as a template for Tax News.
Publication Schedule
More timely information before other tax groups has notify the tax community of FTB changes.
Make it a twice a month, or once a week publication during tax preparation time.
It'd be nicer if it's published weekly, instead of monthly.
need to publish info sooner for tax professionals
Too infrequent.
publish more often
If there is an important item/subject that should be published quickly rather than holding until the next regular publication; then creating/utilizing a designated special flash email to get the information out quickly and also noted as a special email to elvevate it above all of the other daily traffic a tax profesional may recieve.
More frequent
1.Go to weekly or bi-weekly updates during tax season so if there is an tax issue/problem, we can correct/resolve the problem more timely. 2. Be more honest and forthcoming about if FTB is having glitches in it's information/computer system so we can convey this to our clients.
Publish more often
send more often
increase the frequency; monthly or even weekly would be helpful.
Issue the Tax News more frequently. Thank you
General Comments
I really don't pay too much attention to your publication
Think you are doing a great job!
Everything is self explanatory. Thank You
tax news is a plus since being on internet.. facts at our fingertips thank you
I really enjoy reading it and keeping up on the latest information. I often cut articles out and save them! Keep it coming.

I am very satisfied with Tax News, thank you.
You're doing a good job! Thank you.
Good as is!
good job now
a very nice publication and very helpful in our practice.
I am satisfied with the News as it is.
I think you're doing a wonderful service for us all!
I appreciate the communication with us.
Do good job now
Can't do much better than excellent.....
Changes made in the past year have been VERY good.
AT PRESENT TIME YOU ARE DOING A GREAT JOB. KEEP UP THE GOOD EORK.
at this point in time, the tax news works well for me.
Keep doing what you are doing.
Continue sending me all news update via email. I find it to very helpful to me for preparing for the tax seasons. Thank you.
Keep up the good work. We get buried with info but we do try to scan it all for relevant pieces to our practice.
That you ask the users of Tax News their suggestion is a great improvement indeed! Thanks.
I have no suggestions at this moment...Thank you
Keep up the good work
Thanks for the excellent publication
This is one publication I always read!
The new format is great. Your article are on point.
Am happy with everything I get so far.
excellent resource- it would be a good idea to expand it
Seems like the current balance of articles is fine.
nope - just fine
I just appreciate pertinent info that help0s me navigate the FTB and quickly resolve contentious issues.
Just about the right mix already!